

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A toner comprising:

toner particles that are manufactured by a wet granulating method and contain a binder resin and a colorant; and

an external additive comprising hydrophobic inorganic fine particles selected from the group consisting of silica, titanium oxide, alumina, zinc oxide, and mixtures thereof and composite oxide fine particles having a specific surface area of not more than 300 m²/g, each of the composite oxide fine particles contain a Si atom and at least one atom of a metal selected from the group consisting of Ti, Zr, Fe, Nb, V, W, Sn and Ge, wherein the toner particles have an average degree of roundness of not less than 0.950.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the composite oxide fine particles comprises a Si atom and a Ti atom.

5. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the toner particles are manufactured by a resin-particle association method.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the toner particles have an average degree of roundness of 0.950 - 0.980.

8. (Previously Presented) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the specific surface area is 30 - 250 m²/g.

9. (Previously Presented) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the composite oxide fine particles are constituted by two kinds of metal oxides and the ratio of contents between one metal oxide and the other metal oxide is set to 1 : 9 to 9 : 1.

10. (Previously Presented) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the composite oxide fine particles are subjected to a hydrophobizing process to have a degree of hydrophobicity of not less than 20%.

11. (Previously Presented) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the content of composite oxide fine particles is in a range of 0.1 to 3.0 parts by weight with respect to 100 parts by weight of the toner particles.

12-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the colorant is a pigment and the content thereof in the toner particles is in a range of 2 to 20 % by weight with respect to the entire components.

15. (Previously Presented) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the toner is a non-magnetic mono-component and negatively chargeable toner.

16-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The toner according to claim 4, wherein the toner particles have an average degree of roundness of not less than 0.950.

21. (Previously Presented) The toner according to claim 4, wherein the toner particles have an average degree of roundness of 0.950-0.980.

22. (Currently Amended) The toner according to claim 20, wherein the specific surface area is 30-250 m^2/g ~~$m.sup.2/g$~~ .

23. (Previously Presented) The toner according to claim 20, wherein the composite oxide fine particles are constituted by two kinds of metal oxides and the ratio of contents between one metal oxide and the other metal oxide is set to 1:9 to 9:1.

24. (Previously Presented) The toner according to claim 20, wherein the composite oxide fine particles are subjected to a hydrophobizing process to have a degree of hydrophobicity of not less than 20%.

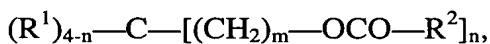
25. (Previously Presented) The toner according to claim 20, wherein the content of composite oxide fine particles is in a range of 0.1 to 3.0 parts by weight with respect to 100 parts by weight of the toner particles.

26. (Previously Presented) The toner according to claim 20, wherein the colorant is a pigment and the content thereof in the toner particles is in a range of 2 to 20% by weight with respect to the entire components.

27. (Previously Presented) The toner according to claim 20, wherein the toner is a non-magnetic mono-component and negatively chargeable toner.

28. (Previously Presented) A toner for forming a full color image comprising: toner particles that are manufactured by a wet granulating method and contain a binder resin and a colorant; and composite oxide fine particles having a specific surface area of not more than 300 m²/g, wherein each of the composite oxide fine particles contains at least two metal atoms selected from metals of the group consisting of Si, Ti, Zr, Fe, Nb, V, W, Sn and Ge, wherein the composite oxide fine particles is externally added to the toner particles, and the toner particles have an average degree of roundness of not less than 0.950.

29. (Previously Presented) The toner according to claim 1, further comprising an ester wax represented by the following formula:



wherein R¹ represents a hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group that may have a substituent, R² represents a hydrocarbon group that may have a substituent, n indicates an integer of 1 to 4, and m indicates an integer of 1 to 4.

30. (New) The toner according to claim 28, wherein hydrophobic inorganic fine particles selected from the group consisting of silica, titanium oxide, alumina, zinc oxide, and mixtures thereof are also added externally to the toner particles.